

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 CIAE-00 EA-07 EUR-12
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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
ERDA HQ WASHDC
ERDA GERMANTOWN
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2462

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, CCD
SUBJECT: CCD: THIRD INFORMAL CW MEETING WITH EXPERTS,MAR 30, 1977

1. THIRD CCD INFORMAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 30 WITH CW EXPERTS,
OPENED WITH UK EXPLANATION THAT PARANTHETICAL PHRASE
"OF A NATURE INTENDED PRIMARILY TO CAUSE LONG TERM
PHYSIOLOGICAL HARM TO HUMAN BEINGS" IN ARTICLE IA OF THEIR
DRAFT CONVENTION INTENDED TO MAKE CLEAR THAT PROHIBITION
REFERRED TO CW AGENTS NOT TO SUBSTANCES OF HIGH TOXICITY
USED FOR OTHER MILITARY PURPOSES, E.G., ROCKET FUEL. IN
RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS PUT AT PERVIOUS SESSION, UK EXPERT
(HOLMES) SAID THAT RIOT CONTROL AGENTS (RCAS) AND
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HERBICIDES WOULD BE BANNED IF THEY POSED SIGNIFICANT
LONG-TERM DANGER TO HUMAN BEINGS, EVEN IF SUCH EFFECTS
WERE NOT PRIMARILY INTENDED. HE ADDED THAT IN HIS COUNTRY
RCAS ARE TESTED FOR SAFETY IN FASHION SIMILAR TO DRUGS AND
RESULTS PUBLISHED. HOLMES SAID HE DID NOT BELIEVE SUPPLEMENTAL
LIST SHOULD INCLUDE ANY EXCEPTIONS. HE SAID HIS REFERENCE OF
PREVIOUS DAY TO HERBICIDES AND DEFOLIANTS BEING COVERED "IN

LARGE MEASURE" BY ENMOD CONVENTION INTENDED ONLY TO AVOID CATEGORIC STATEMENT ABOUT AGREEMENT WITH WHICH HE NOT FAMILIAR, "LONG-LASTING" IN THAT CONTEXT WHICH WAS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM WHAT TERM WAS INTENDED IN CW CONVENTION.

2. POLISH EXPERT (CYFP) SAID THAT SINCE TABLING OF 1972 SOCIALIST DRAFT THERE HAD BEEN A CERTAIN COMING TOGETHER OF POSITIONS. EXPERT GROUP COULD WORK OUT DEFINITION OF LETHAL AGENTS IN TERMS OF TOXICITY (HE OPPOSED CONCEPT OF ANNEXED LIST) BUT POLITICAL DECISION WAS FIRST REQUIRED ON SCOPE OF PROHIBITION. HE ADDED SCOPE OF PROHIBITION WOULD HAVE DIRECT EFFECT ON SCOPE OF VERIFICATION. CZERKAWSKI SAID CHEMICAL WEAPONS INTENDED ONLY FOR DETERRENCE AND HAD IN FACT, BEEN INCORPORATED IN ARMAMENT SYSTEMS OF RELATIVELY FEW STATES. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT UNCERTAINTY EXISTS AS TO THE TYPE AND QUANTITY OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN PRESENT STOCKPILES. POLISH EXPERT SAID UK DRAFT DID NOT ENCOURAGE ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST & CRITICIZED ITS PROVISIONS OF MANDATORY ON-SITE INSPECTION. CZERKAWSKI ALSO SAID ONLY DISMANTLING OR CONVERSION TO PEACEFUL PURPOSES OF PRODUCTION FACILITIES SHOULD BE ALLOWED AND THAT MOTHBALLING SHOULD BE PROHIBITED.

3. GDR EXPERT (LOHS) ARGUED FOR SOCIALIST DRAFT SAYING EXISTING MATERIAL SUFFICIENT FOR ELABORATION OF AGREEMENT BUT THAT POLITICAL DECISION REQUIRED. HE STATED THAT 1972 DRAFT WOULD COVER ALL KNOWN TYPES OF CW AGENTS, AS WELL AS FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. HE SAID ANNEXED LIST SHOULD ONLY BE ILLUSTRATIVE AND CRITICIZED UK DRAFT AS BEING INSUFFICIENT IN ITS APPROACH TO CONTROL OF BINARIES. LOHS SAID DANGER
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OF CW AGENTS COULD NOT BE MEASURED SOLELY IN TERMS OF ACUTE TOXICITY AND DISCUSSED PROBLEM OF LONG-TERM NEUROTOXIC AND CARCINOGENIC EFFECTS. HE SAID THAT FOR SOME AGENTS THERE WERE NO KNOWN THERAPIES AND CITED EXAMPLE OF DIOXIN RELEASED IN RECENT ACCIDENT AT CHEMICAL PLANT IN SEVESO, ITALY. HE CONCLUDED THAT DECISIVE QUESTIONS WAS THAT OF POLITICAL WILL TO ACHIEVE COMPREHENSIVE PROHIBITION.

4. CANADIAN EXPERT (HAMBLIN) MADE BRIEF INTERVENTION REQUESTING CONFIRMATION THAT UK DRAFT WOULD PERMIT MEDICAL USE OF CERTAIN SUPERTOXICS AS WELL AS DEFENSIVE RESEARCH AND TRAINING. SWEDISH EXPERT (LUNDIN) ARGUED FOR MENTION OF TOXINS IN CW CONVENTION SAYING THEY HAD CLEAR CW POTENTIAL INASMUCH AS SOME WERE AMONG MOST TOXIC CHEMICALS KNOWN. HE ADDED THAT ANY AMBIGUITIES THAT MIGHT RESULT FROM COVERAGE BY TWO CONVENTIONS COULD BE RESOLVED BY PROVISION THAT NOTHING IN CW CONVENTION SHALL DETRACT FROM BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION BUT THAT FURTHER RESTRICTIONS OF CW AGREEMENT WOULD APPLY TO AGENTS COVERED BY BOTH. JAPANESE DEL RESPONDED TO

CRITICISM OF THEIR CONCEPT OF ANNEXED LIST BY ARGUING THAT SOME NATIONS, INCLUDING JAPAN, MIGHT HAVE PROBLEMS WITH DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION WITHOUT SUCH ENUMERATION.

5. YUGOSLAV EXPERT (BINENFELD) ARGUED FOR PROHIBITION OF RCAS ALLEGING THAT AS USED BY US IN VIETNAM THEY PRODUCED "LASTING EFFECTS". HE QUERIED WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO LARGE QUANTITIES OF DIOXIN PRODUCED AS BYPRODUCT OF MANUFACTURE OF HERBICIDE 2, 4, 5-T & AGREED WITH GDR STATEMENT THAT UK DRAFT COVERAGE OF BINARIES INSUFFICIENT. BINENFELD CONCLUDED BY CHALLENGING SOVIET AMBASSADOR 'S PLENARY STATEMENT THAT EXTRA-TERRITORIAL MEANS OF VERIFICATION ADEQUATE & POINTED OUT THAT UK WORKING PAPER OF LAST SUMMER CONCLUDED SUCH MEANS INEFFECTIVE.

6. ITALIAN EXPERT (AMADEI) CRITICIZED CCD FOR LACK OF PROGRESS ON CW WHICH HE ATTRIBUTED TO METHOD OF ORGANIZATION AND REFERRED TO ITALIAN PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF CW WORKING CONFIDENTIAL

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GROUP. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF VERIFICATION AND ARGUED FOR COMBINATION OF INDIRECT CONTROL AND ON-SITE INSPECTION. NETHERLANDS EXPERT (OOMS) BRIEFLY DESCRIBED METHOD OF DETECTION OF MINUTE QUANTITIES OF CW AGENT AND BYPRODUCT IN WATER WHICH HAS BEEN DEVELOPED IN HOLLAND, AND PROMISED WORKING PAPER ON SUBJECT IN FEW MONTHS. SORENSON

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